



“Toe” The Line

From the President of the Board....

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As the long hot days of summer come to an end, I humbly assume the responsibilities associated with my election as President of the Maryland Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners. I have an extremely tough act to follow with Brian Kashan leaving the board after completing his second 4-year appointment. Brian's presence surely will be missed. He served as an honest, objective voice of reason throughout his two terms on the board. I particularly will miss his eloquent explanations, as well as his wit and humor in the presence of sometimes difficult situations. I am pleased to announce that Brian has agreed to work with the board in our mentoring program and I believe his input will be extremely helpful to the podiatrists he works with. I also look forward to working with the new board appointee once Governor Ehrlich announces his choice. In addition, there are more changes as the board has a new attorney, Grant Gerber, who replaces Joel Tornari. Joel

served more than 10 years representing and advising the board on legal issues. We also say goodbye to Laurie Sheffield-James who has moved on to become the director of the Board of Morticians. We welcome the addition of Elaine Hanratty to take Laurie's place and have already benefited by her great organizational skills. Beginning with the next two-year renewal cycle (December 1, 2005 through December 1, 2007), I am pleased to announce that there no longer will be a restriction regarding the number of C.M.E.'s one can obtain online. There are abundant opportunities available for meaningful educational programs that one can do from the comfort of home or office. Remember that all C.M.E. programs must be approved by the board. I also would like to congratulate the licensed podiatrists of our state on the new expanded podiatric practice act that was recently signed by Governor Ehrlich and will become effective on October 1, 2005. The Board pushed very hard for developing legislation to change

the scope of practice to include soft tissue care to the level of mid calf and to allow this care to be performed in locations other than a hospital setting. It was the board's ongoing opinion that the scope of practice must evolve congruently with the expanded training of podiatrists practicing in Maryland. I encourage all licensee's to review the new legislation and to formally request opinions from the board if they have questions regarding this.

I finally hope that the next year will be one which results in short board meetings with very limited agendas. We are fortunate to have a state with an abundance of well trained competent practitioners who we all should be extremely proud of. Let's work towards providing a level of care to the citizens of our fine state that will serve as a model to podiatrists across the country.

Ira Deming, D.P.M., FACFAS
President

Board Meetings

The Board meets on the second Thursday of each month at 1:00 p.m. at 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland. All podiatrists and the general public are invited to attend the open session of these meetings. If you wish to place an item on the agenda, please submit your request in writing to the Board at the above address.

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Parting thoughts...

It is hard to believe that my eight years on the board have come and gone so quickly. During that time, I have learned a great deal. It has been difficult at times and rewarding at other times.

The most difficult transition for me, was understanding that as a board member, my first obligation was to the public. It is not easy to sit in front of someone whom I know professionally, see frequently, and judge them. During my term on the board, issues were sometimes difficult to judge. Many doctors spend a great deal of time, money, and energy on keeping their practice up to date. However, keeping up to date not only involves learning the current concepts and techniques of our profession, but also of learning the proper management, coding, and billing policies that change so frequently. I have observed that many people that come before the board were those who did not put the same priority on this second set of issues as the first. Unfortunately, in today's times, how you run your practice in

terms of patient interaction, billing, and documentation, are just as important as the actual treatment you render. Sometimes it is more important, as it is closely scrutinized on an increasing basis. One of the most important lessons I have learned is the importance of compromise, and occasionally swallowing your pride. This is difficult for me, coming from New York, and just the nature of my personality. Sometimes, in dealing with patients and insurance companies, you have had just about enough and will not take any more. This type of attitude is what can get you in trouble over something small, which could have easily been avoided. My years in practice and term on the board have taught me that it is rarely worth the effort. When it comes to any regulating body, in my opinion, avoidance is the best defense. I have seen significant changes during my term. I have seen the importance and priority of prevention and education. I have seen mentoring programs,

which have served to not only correct for past problems, but also actually save and enhance someone's practice. And unfortunately, I have seen colleagues who want to abuse the system for their own personal financial gain. This hurts everyone, as most of us try hard every day to do things ethically and correctly. It has been reassuring for me to see that most of us practice with our patient's interests foremost, understanding that treating people correctly is the best way for financial success.

I have worked with many wonderful people; people whom I respect and have great admiration for. I have been fortunate in working with true leader's and people who have served our profession extraordinarily. That was my honor. I hope that one day someone can say the same about me. It has been an experience that I will truly never forget.

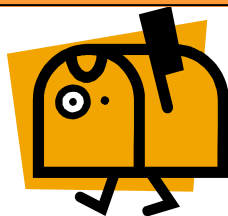
Brian Kashan, D.P.M., FACFAS
Outgoing President

Congratulations

The Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners wishes to welcome the following podiatrists to their respective practices in the State of Maryland:

Active Licenses:

Tony J. Albertelli, DPM
Paul B. Cannon, DPM
Caroline D. Gaynor, DPM
Jeannine George, DPM
Breck Laudenberger, DPM
Christopher Majewski, DPM
Edward Mirigliano, DPM
Jennifer Mullendore, DPM
Francisco Pizarro DPM
Grace Prince-Torain, DPM
Erika Schwartz, DPM
John Sekel, DPM
John H. Susz, DPM



Change of Address

License renewal applications will be mailed out shortly, and it is most important that the Board has the correct address for all licensees. In accordance with §16-310 of the Annotated Code, "Each licensee shall notify the Board of any change of address". It is the podiatrist's responsibility to notify the Board of an address change. Board policy dictates that all change of address requests be in writing and signed by the person of interest. A \$100.00 fine for non-compliance will be issued to podiatrists who fail to notify the Board of an address change.

Public Disciplinary Actions

Final Disciplinary Actions are public documents. Copies may be obtained by providing a signed written request and submission of a twenty-five dollar processing fee. Disciplinary actions are reported to:

National Health Integrity Data Bank
Federation of Podiatric Medical Boards
Medicare
Medicaid
Insurance companies.

Sampler, Myra, D.P.M.

License revoked

Health Care Fraud.

Board's Final Decision and Order, June 9, 2005.



New Legislation : Effective October 1, 2005

SENATE BILL 304

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Health Occupations

16-101. Definitions.

(a) In general - In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

(b) "Board" means the State Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners.

(c) "License" means, unless the context requires otherwise, a license issued by the Board to practice podiatry.

(d) "Licensed podiatrist" means, unless the context requires otherwise, a podiatrist who is licensed by the Board to practice podiatry.

(e) "Podiatrist" means an individual who practices podiatry.

(f) (1) "Practice podiatry" means to diagnose or surgically, medically, or mechanically treat the human foot or ankle, the anatomical structures that

attach to the human foot, or the soft tissue below the mid-calf.

(2) "Practice podiatry" does not include:

(i) Surgical treatment of acute ankle fracture; or

(ii) Administration of an anesthetic, other than a local anesthetic.

16-103. Procedures required to be performed in a licensed hospital.

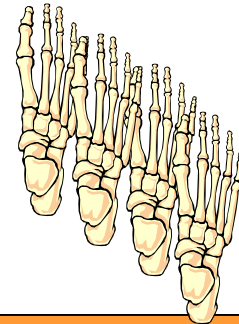
(a) In general. - All osseous surgical procedures of the ankle, arthrodeses of 2 or more tarsal bones, and complete tarsal osteotomies that are performed by a licensed podiatrist shall be performed in a licensed hospital or ambulatory surgical center, subject to the provisions of § 19-351 of the Health -General Article.

(b) Requirements for procedures in ambulatory surgical centers. - A licensed podiatrist who performs an osseous surgical procedure of the ankle, arthrodesis of 2 or more tarsal bones, or a complete tarsal osteotomy in a licensed ambulatory surgical center must:

(1) Have current surgical privileges at a licensed hospital for the same procedure; and

(2) Meet the requirements of the ambulatory surgical center.

(c) Qualification requirements and delineation of privileges by hospital or ambulatory surgical center. - Nothing in this title shall prohibit a licensed hospital or ambulatory surgical center from establishing qualifications or delineating privileges for the performance of surgical procedures of the human foot or ankle, the anatomical structures that attach to the human foot, or the soft tissue below the mid-calf by a licensed podiatrist in the hospital or ambulatory surgical center.



Time for License Renewal!!!

Licensure Renewal Requirements

All required materials and fees for your license renewal must reach the Board's office no later than December 1, 2005.

The Board allows up to 20 CME approved credits to be taken online

every renewal period. The following websites are helpful and informational:

<http://www.apma.org>

<http://www.podiatrymgt.com>

<http://www.codingline.com>

<http://www.podiatryonline.com>

<http://www.acfas.org>

<http://www.abps.org>

<http://www.japmaonline.org>

Please be advised that a signature on the renewal of license application affirms that you have completed all of the CME credits required to renew your license. If a podiatrist is audited it will be his/her responsibility to make sure that documentation is available for immediate submission to the Board to support the necessary number of Board-Approved CME credits.

AUDITS:

The Board will audit randomly selected podiatrists and all podiatrists who have had actions taken against them during the last renewal cycle. Additionally, those podiatrists who have had difficulty fulfilling the number of CME requirements in a timely fashion when they last renewed their license, will be audited as well.

More on CMEs

The Board, and not the sponsor of CME hours, determines how many credit hours each Continuing Education activity is awarded.

The Board will not always give CME credit for classes attended; the Board will not give credit for continuing education involving financial planning, marketing, or practice enhancement strategies. Board pre-approval for CME credit is always recommended.

**Get CME Credits
through GRAND
ROUNDS ONLINE**

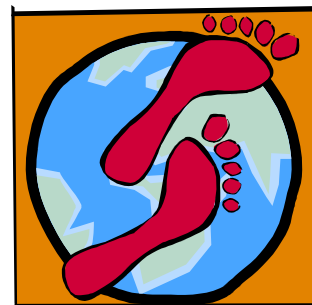
**SEARCH THIS IMPORTANT
NEW WEBSITE FOR CME'S —
www.cmelectures.org/apma**

MARYLAND BOARD OF PODIATRIC MEDICAL EXAMINERS

4201 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

Toll Free No.: 1-866-253-8461
Phone: 410-764-4785
Fax: 410-358-3083

Web Address: <http://www.mbpme.org>



Upcoming CME Courses

Dates	Course	Sponsor / Location	Approved
Oct. 7, 2005	Diabetes Mellitus Update 2005	The Geckle Diabetes & Nutrition Center GBMC Healthcare Balt., MD (443) 849-3670	2.0 Category A 3.5 Category B
Oct. 14 - 17, 2005	Mid-Atlantic Podiatry Conference	The Podiatry Institute Marriott Bethesda North Hotel Bethesda, Maryland	20.0
Oct. 15, 2005	Management of Complex Foot and An- kle Pathology	Drexel University College of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA	8.0
Oct. 15, 2005	Course in Aesthetics	International Aesthetic Foot Society Marriott Marquis Hotel New York, New York	7.75
Oct. 22 - 23, 2005	2005 Symposium on the Geriatric Foot and Ankle	New York College of Podiatric Medicine The Mount Sinai Medical Center New York, New York	12.0
Nov. 2, 2005	Annual Sanibel Seminar Complexity of Diabetic Wound Management	The Podiatry Institute Sanibel Harbour Resort & Spa Sanibel Island, Florida	8.0
Nov. 3 - 6, 2005	Annual Sanibel Seminar Hallux Valgus, Forefoot Surgery and New Technology	The Podiatry Institute Sanibel Harbour Resort & Spa Sanibel Island, Florida	25.0
Nov. 3 - 6, 2005	The Pennsylvania Foot and Ankle Soci- ety's Clinical Conference 2005	New York College of Podiatric Medicine	Pre-conf: 8.0 Conf: 25.0 Lab: 4.5